

CWD UPDATE 80

October 6, 2006

A recent article in Science reported on the infectivity of saliva and blood from CWD infected animals. I previously forwarded an email from Jeff Ver Steeg reference this study. I am attaching the article as a PDF file for your reading pleasure.

The Journal of Infectious Diseases published an article reporting on a study of Colorado hunters in a 7 county area and the prevalence of CJD in the counties. In the counties, 75% of hunting licenses are issued locally, suggesting that resident hunters are the bulk of the folks buying them. The inspection of death certificates from 1979-2001 did not reveal any higher a rate of CJD in the population nor did CJD increase over time. This does not rule out the possibility of human infection but does indicate it is unlikely. The article can be found on the Internet at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/EID/vol12no10/06-0019.htm>

This may be my last update as I am retiring the end of November and moving back home to New Mexico. I have accepted the call to be pastor of Mora Valley Baptist Church in Cleveland, New Mexico, a beautiful town located in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of northern New Mexico. I will be only minutes away from excellent fly-fishing, elk hunting, and turkey hunting. May have to drive a few more minutes to get to the pronghorn hunting spots. As information is available on CWD testing this fall, I may get one or two more updates out, however, most of my time will be taken up in finishing up projects here in Nebraska, packing, and moving. I have thoroughly enjoyed the past few years of working on CWD and other wildlife disease issues. I will be available for consulting work if it doesn't interfere with my hunting and fishing. Those of you whom I have been fortunate enough to meet and work with, thank you for all you help. Those I have not meet except through these updates, keep up the good work. If anyone out there wants to continue to issue these updates, use the email list in the "to" section of this message.

